



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region



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**TO:** Interested Parties *original signed by*

**FROM:** Samuel Unger  
Unit Chief, TMDL Unit 2

**DATE:** December 31, 2003

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED RESOLUTION AMENDING THE UPPER SANTA CLARA  
RIVER CHLORIDE TMDL TO REVISE THE INTERIM LIMITS  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

On March 4, 2004, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) will consider a proposed amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan) to modify a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for chloride in the Upper Santa Clara River by revising the interim waste load allocations. A public hearing is scheduled for **Thursday, March 4, 2004** at 9:00 A.M., at the:

Metropolitan Water District  
700 N. Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA

At the public hearing, the public will have opportunity to comment on the proposed TMDL.

A copy of the Tentative Basin Plan Amendment and Item Summary for the revision of the interim waste load allocation for chloride in the Upper Santa Clara River TMDL is posted on the Regional Board's web page. The web address is

[http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/meetings/tmdl/Basin\\_plan/basin\\_plan\\_amendment\\_tmdl.htm](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/meetings/tmdl/Basin_plan/basin_plan_amendment_tmdl.htm).

Please contact Elizabeth Erickson at 213-576-6683 or Sam Unger at 213-576-6784 with questions or to request additional copies of the staff report and related materials.

In addition a meeting will be held pursuant to California Public Resource Code section 21083.9 to receive comments on the appropriate scope and content of the "functionally equivalent" environmental document to be prepared pursuant to Section 2080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The scoping meeting for the action described above will be held at the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board in the Pacific Ocean Conference Room at 10 A.M. on Wednesday, February 4, 2003. Any person who requires special

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accommodations to participate in the scoping meeting, please contact staff listed above no later than 3 days before the scheduled meeting.

Oral presentations can be made at the Board meeting and should be summarized in writing to the extent possible. Time limitations on presentations may be imposed. In order to review and to assess comments, the Regional Board staff must receive written comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on **February 16, 2004**. Comments should be submitted to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Los Angeles Region  
320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Los Angeles California, 90013

ATTN: Elizabeth Erickson

### Background

The TMDL for chloride in the Upper Santa Clara River that was adopted by the Regional Board in July 2003 included interim waste load allocations for chloride from the Saugus and Valencia Water Reclamation Plants (WRPs). These interim waste load allocations enable the major dischargers to conduct special studies or implement effluent treatment, if necessary, to reduce chloride loading to the Santa Clara River. Subsequent to the Regional Board hearing in July 2003, the discharger provided information showing that the effluent concentrations from the Saugus and Valencia WRPs are dependent on the impact of chloride loads entering the watershed in imported water.

In November 2003, the Regional Board renewed the NPDES permits for the Saugus and Valencia WRPs. The NPDES permits contain interim effluent limits for chloride based on a value for the external water supply plus a loading factor. The purpose of this proposed action is to conform the interim waste load allocations in the TMDL for chloride in the Upper Santa Clara River with the interim effluent limits for chloride in the recently renewed NPDES permits for the Saugus and Valencia WRPs.

Staff note the revision of the interim waste load allocation will have minimal effect on agricultural production or groundwater quality. Staff also note that the TMDL requires alternative water supply should the instream water quality deteriorate and affect agriculture or aquatic life beneficial uses.

